<u>CLAIMS</u>

1.   (Previously presented)   A cutter for a web which comprises:

a web transport system that operates cyclically to advance the web, the web transport system providing a synchronization signal at a known point in a cutting cycle;

a drive system coupled to a cutting knife, the drive system oscillating the cutting knife from a resting position to an active position and back to the resting position in response to an actuating signal;

a sensor in the path of the cutting knife, the sensor providing a position signal when the cutting knife is at a predetermined position that is substantially different than the resting position; and

a controller coupled to the web transport system, the drive system, and the sensor, the controller further comprising:

a synchronization circuit to receive the synchronization signal from the web transport system;

an actuating circuit to provide the actuating signal to the drive system;

a position sensing circuit to receive the position signal from the sensor; and

an adjusting circuit coupled to the synchronization circuit, the position sensing circuit, and the actuating circuit, the adjusting circuit causing the actuating circuit to provide subsequent actuating signals so that the cutting knife arrives at the predetermined position at a predetermined time relative to the synchronization signal.

2.   (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 1, wherein the synchronization signal allows the phase within the cutting cycle to be determined.

3. (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 1, wherein the drive system includes a pneumatic actuator.

4. (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 1, wherein the drive system includes a hydraulic actuator.

5. (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 1, wherein the predetermined position is substantially at a position where the cutting knife is in contact with the web prior to cutting the web.

6. (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 1, wherein the web transport system includes a clamp adjacent to the cutting knife, the clamp to hold the web while the web is being cut.

7. (Currently amended) The cutter as recited in <u>claim</u> 6, wherein the drive system is supported by the clamp such that the cutting knife is moved toward the web when the clamp is moved towards the web to hold the web.

8. – 25. (Cancelled).